**Socratic Seminar: The Crito**

**Nomen: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Datum: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Seminar Overview:**

This Socratic Seminar will be comprised mainly of questions of law and our obligation to it. Above all, you all will be discussing how Socrates justifies his argument, and whether you agree or disagree with him.

**Seminar Question:**

The seminal question to frame your argument for this seminar is:

* *Is it just to reject a law, even if you are unfairly punished?*

When you arrive to class on Wednesday, your notes, annotations, citations, and material evidence should be prepared around making a *specific, concrete* argument.

**Resources**

You should be employing “The Crito” and citations, quotes, and evidence from it. Outside resources are welcome and encouraged.

**Expectations**

1. Everyone should be participating. This is a discussion, not a lecture.
2. You *should try to always* use evidence when supporting your arguments.
3. You should be listening respectfully, and paying attention. Do so by *using good body language and eye contact.*
4. Please allow a speaker to finish their thought or question before responding. Do not cut people off to make your own point or ask your own question.
5. Be considerate and open-minded. **The purpose of a Socratic Seminar is not to win an argument. The point is to further your understanding of a topic. The only way to do so is to keep an open mind and fully listen to what others have to say.**
6. Ensure that everyone has had a chance to speak, or has been encouraged to speak. Please consider others if you have been talking a fair amount of the time, and yield to someone who looks like they’ve been waiting patiently. **It is just as important to hear multiple viewpoints from others, as it is to make your own point. This is the only way to test and strengthen your argument.**

**The following below are things to keep in mind:**

* I will ask a few following questions that may come from the “guiding questions”. Be ready for those.
* Be ready to quote evidence by writing down page numbers, specific quotes, paraphrased information, *etc.* You don’t want to spend your speaking time shuffling through pages and forgetting where a key piece of evidence lies hidden.

**Rubric**

Below are the criteria for scoring in this Socratic Seminar:

*There is a total of 25 points to be earned during the seminar. Socratic Seminars will be scored under the “Tests” category, so these points will be valuable.*

1. Participation: you can earn up to **5 points** for participation:

a. 3 points minimum for speaking at least once,

b. 4 points for contributing at least twice,

c. 5 points for contributing at least thrice.

2. Evidence: you can earn up to **5 points** for evidence use:

a. 3 points minimum for using quoted evidence at least once,

b. 4 points for using quoted evidence twice,

c. 5 points for using quoted evidence at least twice, and also interpreting a portion of the reading.

3. Preparation: you can earn up to **5 points** for preparation for the seminar:

a. 3 points minimum for bringing the text

b. 4 points for bringing the text that is annotated, with your own thoughts included

c. 5 points for brining the text and also collecting specific quotes to use in your argument.

4. Conduct: you can earn up to **10 points** for conduct during the seminar:

a. minimum 5 points for being respectful to all students.

b. 7 points for being respectful for the whole seminar, and for making good eye contact to all speakers.

c. 8 points for being respectful, making eye contact, letting others have their turn to speak, and speaking in a polite, calm, and respectful manner.

d. 9-10 points for all of the above, plus actively encouraging other students to speak and share their opinions.